

OFER MALAMUD

School of Education and Social Policy
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Employment and Affiliations

Professor, School of Education and Social Policy, Northwestern University, 2017–present
Faculty Fellow, Institute for Policy Research, Northwestern University, 2017–present
Faculty Affiliate, Buffett Institute for Global Studies, Northwestern University, 2017–present

Research Associate, National Bureau of Economic Research, 2013–present
Fellow, CESifo Research Network, 2017–present
Visiting Scholar, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, 2013–2019, 2023–present

Co-editor, *Journal of Human Resources*, 2019–2024
Associate editor, *Journal of Human Resources*, 2018–2019

Previous Employment and Affiliations

Visiting Fellow, Brookings Institution, 2016–2017
Visiting Scholar, Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM), 2019–2020

Associate Professor, School of Education and Social Policy, Northwestern 2017–2023
Associate Professor, Harris School of Public Policy, University of Chicago, 2013–2017
Assistant Professor, Harris School of Public Policy, University of Chicago, 2004–2013

Faculty Research Fellow, National Bureau of Economic Research, 2008–2013
Research Associate, Population Research Center, Chicago and NORC, 2004–2017
Faculty Affiliate, Center for Human Potential and Public Policy, 2005–2017

Consultant, Inter-American Development Bank, 2011–2013
Advisor to Chief Information Officer, Ministry of Education, Chile, 2011–2013

Education

Ph.D., Economics, Harvard University, 2004
M.A., Economics, Harvard University, 2002
B.A., Economics and Philosophy, Harvard University, 1997

Published and Forthcoming Papers

“Streaks to Success: The Effects of Highlighting Streaks on Student Effort and Learning”
(with Raphaele Aulagnon, Julian Cristia, Santiago Cueto). Forthcoming in the *Economics of Education Review*

“Self-, Peer- and Teacher Perceptions under School Tracking” (with Andreea Mitrut, Kiki Pop-Eleches, Miguel Urquiola). Forthcoming in the *Review of Economics and Statistics*.

“Interactions between Family and School Environments: Access to Abortion and Selective Schools? (with Leonard Goff, Cristian Pop-Eleches and Miguel Urquiola). *Journal of Human Resources* Vol. 60, No. 3 (2025): 907-949

“Headstrong Girls and Dependent Boys: Gender Differences in the Labor Market Returns to Childhood Behavior” (joint with Robert Kaestner). *Industrial and Labor Relations Review*. Vol. 76 No. 1 (2023): 112-134

“The Effect of Education on Health and Mortality: Evidence from a Schooling Expansion in Romania” (with Andreea Mitrut and Cristian Pop-Eleches). *Journal of Human Resources* Vol. 58 No. 2 (2023): 561-592

“Parental Monitoring and Children's Internet Use: The Role of Information, Control, and Salience” (with Francisco Gallego and Cristian Pop-Eleches). *Journal of Public Economics* Vol. 188 (2020): 1-18

“Do Children Benefit from Internet Access at Home? Experimental Evidence from Peru” (with Diether Beuermann, Julian Cristia, and Santiago Cueto). *Journal of Development Economics* Vol. 138 (2019): 41–56.

“The Impact of College Education on Mortality,” (with Kasey Buckles, Andreas Hagemann, Melinda Morrill, Abigail Wozniak). *Journal of Health Economics* Vol. 50 (2016): 99-114

“Is College a Worthwhile Investment?” (with Lisa Barrow). *Annual Review of Economics* Vol. 7 (2015): 519–55

“One Laptop Per Child at Home: Short-Term Impacts from a Randomized Experiment in Peru” (with Diether Beuermann, Julian Cristia, Yyannu Cruz-Aguayo, and Santiago Cueto). *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, Vol. 7, No. 2 (2015): 1-29

“The Impact of Class-Based Affirmative Action on Admission and Academic Outcomes in Israel,” (with Sigal Alon). *Economics of Education Review*, Vol. 40 (2014): 123-139

“Self-Selection and International Migration: New Evidence from Mexico,” (with Robert Kaestner). *Review of Economics and Statistics*, Vol. 96, No. 1 (2014): 78-91

“The Impact of College Education on Migration: Evidence from the Vietnam Generation,” (with Abigail Wozniak). *Journal of Human Resources*, Vol. 47, No. 4 (2012): 913-950

“School Tracking on Access to Higher Education among Disadvantaged Groups,” (with Cristian Pop-Eleches). *Journal of Public Economics*, Vol. 95, Nos. 11-12 (2011): 1538-1549

“Home Computer Use and the Development of Human Capital,” (with Cristian Pop-Eleches). *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Vol. 126, No. 2 (2011): 987-1027

“Discovering One’s Talent: Learning from Academic Specialization,” *Industrial and Labor Relations Review*, Vol. 62, No. 2 (2011): 375-405

“The Structure of European Higher Education in the Wake of the Bologna Reforms” in *American Universities in a Global Market* (ed. Charles Clotfelter) Chicago: University of Chicago Press (2010): 205-230

“Breadth vs. Depth: The Timing of Specialization in Higher Education,” *Labour*, Vol. 24, No. 4 (2010): 359-390

“General Education vs. Vocational Training: Evidence from an Economy in Transition,”
(with Cristian Pop-Eleches). *Review of Economics and Statistics*, Vol. 92, No 1 (2010): 43-60

Working Papers

“Good Schools or Good Students? Evidence on School Effects from Universal Random Assignment” (with Paulo Bastos, Julian Cristia, & Beomsoo Kim). Revise and Resubmit at *Labour Economics*.

“Promoting Technology Adoption in Education: Evidence from a Large-Scale Experiment with Teachers in Peru” (with Julian Cristia, Julian Messina, Carolina Mendez, and Elena Arias).

“Laptop in the Long-Run: Evidence from the “One Laptop per Child” Program in Peru” (with Diether Beuermann, Julian Cristia, and Santiago Cueto, Francisco Pardo).

“Does Vocational Education Work? Experimental Evidence from Mongolia” (with Erica Field, Leigh Linden, Daniel Rubenson, and Shing Yi Wang)

“The Effect of Curriculum Breadth and General Skills on Unemployment”

Work in Progress

Teacher Effort in the Classroom (with Matias Martinez, Andreea Mitrut, Kiki Pop-Eleches, and Miguel Urquiola)

“Understanding the Impacts and Determinants of School Tracking” (with Andreea Mitrut, Andrei Munteanu, Kiki Pop-Eleches, and Miguel Urquiola)

Teaching

University of Chicago:

Introduction to Microeconomics and Public Policy (PP 323)

Economics of Education Policy (PP 357)

K-12 Education Policy (PP 343)

The Economics of Higher Education (PP 368)

Program Evaluation (PP 346)

Northwestern University:

Statistical Causal Inference (SESP 310)

Economics of Education Policy (SOC POL 332)

Quantitative Methods I: Probability and Statistics (HDSP 410)

Quantitative Methods III: Empirical Tools for Causal Analysis (HDSP 412)

Economics of Education Policy (HDSP 451)

Causal Methods for Social and Economic Policy (SE POL 400)

Honors

CHPPP Faculty Development Award, 2008-2009

Spencer Foundation Dissertation Fellowship, 2003-2004

Outstanding Professor Award, SESP, 2023

Excellence in Teaching Award, MSSEP, 2023 and 2024

University Service

University of Chicago:

Board of the Graham School of Continuing Liberal and Professional Studies 2016-17
Dean's Search Committee, 2013-2014

Northwestern University:

Program Chair for Human Development and Social Policy (HDSP), 2023-present
Executive Committee, Institute for Policy Research (IPR), 2019-present
Executive Committee, School of Education and Social Policy (SESP), 2021-2023
Faculty Advisory Council, Buffett Institute for Global Affairs, 2019-2024

Professional Affiliations and Service

Member (selected years): American Economic Association (AEA), Society of Labor Economics (SOLE), Association of Public Policy and Management (APPAM)

Referee: *American Economic Review*, *American Economic Review Insights*, *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, *American Law and Economics Review*, *B.E. Journals of Economic Analysis & Policy*, *Development Psychology*, *Eastern Economic Journal*, *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, *Economics of Education Review*, *Economic Inquiry*, *Economic Journal*, *Economica*, *Education Economics*, *Education Finance and Policy*, *Industrial Relations*, *Industrial and Labor Relations Review*, *International Migration Review*, *Journal of Development Economics*, *Journal of Educational and Behavioral Statistics*, *Journal of the European Economic Association*, *Journal of Health Economics*, *Journal of Human Capital*, *Journal of Human Resources*, *Journal of Labor Economics*, *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, *Journal of Political Economy*, *Journal of Public Economics*, *Journal of Urban Economics*, *Labour Economics*, *Management Science*, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, *Research in Labor Economics*, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, *Review of Economic Studies*, *World Development*, Institute for Evaluation of Labour Market and Education Policy, National Science Foundation, Smith-Richardson Foundation, Israel Science Foundation

Discussant: AEA Meetings, NBER Higher Education Meetings, SOLE meetings, APPAM meetings, MEA meetings, White Paper Presentation for NORC/Spencer Foundation Conference, International Economics Association World Congress

Selected Grants

\$71,634 from SESP's Venture Research Fund, 2021
\$74,764 from the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL), 2021
\$40,000 from the Spencer Foundation, 2012
\$50,000 from the United States Agency for International Development, 2012
\$40,000 from the Spencer Foundation, 2009
\$39,215 from the Population Research Center, NORC, 2009
\$15,000 from the Center for Human Potential and Public Policy, 2008

\$12,000 from the Population Research Center, NORC, 2007

Invited Academic Presentations

APPAM Meetings – 2012
Ben Gurion University – 2012
Brookings Institution – 2017
CESifo Economics of Education – 2022, 2023, 2025
Clemson University – 2004
Columbia University – 2017
Cornell University – 2012
Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago – 2017
Georgetown University – 2011
Hebrew University – 2008
Inter-American Development Bank – 2010
ITAM – 2019
Johns Hopkins University – 2017
LACEA meetings – 2019
Mathematica Policy Research – 2004
McGill University – 2023
Michigan State University – 2004
NBER Children Meetings – 2018
NBER Education Meetings – 2005, 2008
NBER Higher Education Meetings – 2006
New York University – 2012
Northwestern University – 2017
Midwest Economics of Education Conference at Notre Dame – 2024
Pontifical Catholic University of Chile – 2013, 2015
RAND – 2004
SOLE Meetings – 2006, 2012
Stanford University – 2011
Tel-Aviv University – 2008, 2010, 2012, 2015
UC Berkeley, GSPP – 2008
UC Riverside – 2004
UC San Diego – 2006
UC Santa Barbara – 2015
University of Southern California – 2025
University of Calgary – 2015
University of Chicago – 2004
University of Chile – 2015
University of Illinois at Chicago – 2005, 2006, 2011, 2012, 2016
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign – 2009
University of Notre Dame – 2010
University of Pennsylvania, GSE – 2012
University of Texas, Austin – 2015
University of Virginia – 2011
University of Zurich (Leading House Lecture) – 2014

PhD Students and Initial Placements

Matthew Steinberg (2011) – University of Pennsylvania (Education)
Lauren Sartain (2014) – UChicago Consortium and UNC (Education)
Elise Chor (2014) – Northwestern (postdoc) and Temple University (Political Science)
Sebastian Gallegos (2015) – Princeton (postdoc) and Inter-American Development Bank
Carolina Mendez (2016) – Chilean Ministry of Education and
Rebecca Hinze-Pifer (2017) – Stanford University (postdoc) and UIUC (Education)
Nolan Pope (2017) – University of Maryland (Economics)
Luis Herskovic (2017) – NYU (postdoc)
Olga Namen (2018) – Universidad del Rosario (postdoc)
Timi Viragh (2023) – Acuman
Matias Martinez (2025) – Vanderbilt (postdoc)

Selected Media and Writing

Coverage of research projects

New York Times: <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/07/11/business/11digi.html>
NPR (Here and Now): <http://hereandnow.wbur.org/2010/07/22/rundown-722-2>
Slate: <http://www.slate.com/id/2192798/>
Inside Higher Ed: <https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2009/11/25/when-specialize>
Yahoo: <https://money.yahoo.com/gender-norms-earnings-adults-180857355.html>
World Bank's EduTech blog: <http://blogs.worldbank.org/edutech/home-access>
The Economist: <https://www.economist.com/democracy-in-america/2014/06/18/identifying-the-disadvantaged>
Forbes: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/ryanraig/2015/07/14/the-just-in-time-education-revolution/?sh=460e4f5046c7>
CNBC: <https://www.cnn.com/2022/02/01/headstrong-women-dependent-men-may-get-paid-less-research-finds.html>
The Hill: <https://thehill.com/changing-america/respect/equality/594504-adults-who-ignored-traditional-gender-norms-as-children>

Research summaries

<https://voxeu.org/article/gender-differences-labour-market-returns-child-behaviour>
<https://voxeu.org/article/home-internet-access-and-child-development>
<https://voxeu.org/article/parental-monitoring-and-childrens-internet-use>
<https://voxeu.org/article/effect-home-computer-use-children-s-outcomes>
<https://voxdev.org/topic/education/does-vocational-educational-training-work-experimental-evidence-mongolia>

Expert Commentary

Brookings: <https://www.brookings.edu/research/fixing-student-loans-the-right-way/>
Crain's Chicago: <https://www.chicagobusiness.com/article/20160326/ISSUE07/160329868/offer-malamud-future-of-college-borrowing-income-contingent-loans>